

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

LAW OFFICES  
LEVENTHAL, SENTER & LERMAN  
SUITE 600

2000 K STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006-1809

NORMAN P. LEVENTHAL  
MEREDITH S. SENTER, JR.  
STEVEN ALMAN LERMAN  
RAUL R. RODRIGUEZ  
DENNIS P. CORBETT  
BARBARA K. GARDNER  
STEPHEN D. BARUCH  
SALLY A. BUCKMAN  
DAVID S. KEIR  
LINDA G. MORRISON\*  
J. BRECK BLALOCK  
NANCY A. ORY\*\*  
WALTER P. JACOB+

TELEPHONE  
(202) 429-8970

TELECOPIER  
(202) 293-7783

OF COUNSEL  
BRIAN M. MADDEN  
NANCY L. WOLF

September 12, 1994 SEP 12 1994

\*ADMITTED CA ONLY  
\*\*ADMITTED MA ONLY  
+ADMITTED NY ONLY

William F. Caton  
Acting Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: In the Matter of Equal Access and  
Interconnection Obligations  
Pertaining to Commercial Mobile  
Radio Services - CC Docket No.  
94-54, RM-8012

Dear Mr. Caton:

Enclosed please find an original and five copies of the  
Comments of TRW Inc. in the above-referenced proceeding.

Sincerely,



J. Breck Blalock

JBB/nbd  
cc: International Transcription Services, Inc.

BEFORE THE DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL  
**Federal Communications Commission**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

SEP 12 1994

In the matter of )  
 )  
Equal Access and Interconnection )  
Obligations Pertaining to ) CC Docket No. 94-54  
Commercial Mobile Radio Services ) RM-8012

To: The Commission

COMMENTS OF TRW INC.

TRW Inc. ("TRW"), by its attorneys and pursuant to Sections 1.415, 1.419, and 1.430 of the Commissions Rules, hereby comments on the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Notice of Inquiry in the above-captioned docket, Equal Access and Interconnection Obligations Pertaining to Commercial Mobile Radio Services, CC Docket No. 94-54, RM-8012 (released July 1, 1994) ("Notice"). TRW has applied to the Commission for authority to construct a constellation of twelve non-geostationary satellites in medium Earth orbit for the provision of mobile satellite service ("MSS") space segment capacity. See, Application of TRW Inc. (File Nos. 20-DDS-P-91(12) and CSS-91-015). It is envisioned that some commercial mobile radio service ("CMRS") providers will use this MSS space segment capacity in the provision of CMRS services.

In the Notice, the Commission tentatively concludes that equal connection obligations should be imposed on all cellular licensees. The Commission also seeks comment regarding the costs and benefits of imposing equal access obligations on other classes of CMRS providers. Finally, the Commission initiated an inquiry regarding specific issues of interconnection among CMRS providers.

TRW supports the Commission in its conclusion that it should impose equal access obligations on all cellular providers. In addition, TRW believes that the Commission should extend equal access obligations to all terrestrial CMRS providers that provide communications services similar to those services provided by cellular providers. However, equal access obligation should not be imposed at this time on CMRS providers that utilize MSS space segment. Finally, TRW believes that the Commission should require physical interconnection between all terrestrial CMRS providers that are capable of providing such interconnections. It is premature, however, to require CMRS providers that use MSS space segment to provide such interconnection to terrestrial mobile service providers at this time.

**The Commission Should Impose Equal Access  
Obligations on Terrestrial CMRS Providers**

TRW agrees with the Commission that equal access obligations should be imposed on all cellular carriers and urges the Commission to require all other similar, terrestrial CMRS providers to provide equal access. Currently, only cellular companies owned by Bell Operating Companies are required to provide equal access to their customers. Accordingly, interests in regulatory parity dictate that equal access obligations be placed on all terrestrial cellular providers. TRW believes that this will provide a level playing field between cellular operators, and will therefore increase competition and choice and lower the price of long distance services originating on cellular systems, to the benefit of cellular customers. Similarly, equal access obligations for cellular providers will increase access of end users and others to networks.

Other CMRS services, such as broadband Personal Communications Services ("PCS"), will provide local communications services similar to, and in direct competition with, cellular providers. Accordingly, to the extent that these other terrestrial CMRS services compete directly with cellular

services on a local basis, the Commission should also impose equal access obligations on all such CMRS services.

TRW recommends, however, that the Commission refrain from imposing equal access obligations on CMRS providers that utilize MSS space segment at this time. Unlike established, terrestrial CMRS services, which are local systems or groups of local systems aggregated to provide regional services, MSS services will be inherently global in scope. Most of these MSS systems will be accessible to terrestrial services primarily through a limited number of continental, earth station gateways. Indeed, as the Commission noted in the Notice, given the nature of MSS and their broad coverage areas, there remain questions as to how interconnection or equal access obligations would be imposed.<sup>1/</sup> With these attributes in mind, Commission action requiring equal access obligations for CMRS providers using MSS would be premature. TRW recommends that the Commission defer instituting such obligations until MSS are operational and a market for CMRS services provided over such capacity has developed sufficiently to provide the information necessary to analyze the costs and benefits imposing equal access obligations.

---

<sup>1/</sup> Notice, at 24 n.104.

**The Commission Should Require Terrestrial  
CMRS Providers to Interconnect with One Another**

TRW urges the Commission to impose mandatory interconnection on all terrestrial CMRS providers who are currently able to provide such interconnection.<sup>2/</sup> With the limited Local Exchange Company ("LEC") based interconnection that now exists, a call must be routed through an LEC for one CMRS customer to connect with another CMRS provider's customer. Because of the current low volume of such CMRS to CMRS traffic, this routing arrangement has apparently not yet become sufficiently inefficient to elicit complaints. Also, as long as the majority of CMRS traffic originates on a CMRS provider system and terminates on the wireline system, or vice versa, interconnection between CMRS providers is not relevant. However, as the CMRS marketplace develops, TRW believes that there will be a dramatic increase in traffic originated and terminated between different CMRS providers.

---

<sup>2/</sup> TRW has previously requested that the Commission take such action. See, GN Docket No. 93-252, Implementation of Section 3(n) and 332 of the Communications Act, Regulatory Treatment of Mobile Services, Reply Comments of TRW, Inc. at 26-27.

The Commission has expressly stated that it does not want to encourage the development of a wireless network that requires traffic from one CMRS provider to another CMRS provider to pass through an LEC switch.<sup>3/</sup> TRW shares the Commission's vision. TRW believes that the Commission should encourage the development of a seamless, wireless network with the hopes of establishing an independent, wireless-communications market that can compete effectively with the established wireline network.

However, for a truly viable wireless communications network to develop, it is necessary for CMRS providers to establish interconnections that are not interdependent on LECs. If the FCC orders interconnection through LECs but does not mandate separate physical interconnection between terrestrial CMRS providers, the CMRS marketplace is likely to develop a network dependent upon the facilities of LECs, rather than a truly independent communications network. Accordingly, TRW encourages the Commission to adopt mandatory interconnection requirements for terrestrial CMRS providers as soon as possible.

Further, the Commission should not delay in deciding to impose these interconnection requirements. To allow the

---

<sup>3/</sup> Notice, at 54.

terrestrial CMRS market to develop without defined interconnection goals, and then later impose interconnection requirements, would be more costly, and it would create waste in the construction of facilities that will not be consistent with the Commission's interconnection requirements. The Commission's goal should be to facilitate universal development of diverse CMRS services that provide access to the public switch network and that, at the same time, are not dependent on interconnection with LECs for such access. Lack of market power and control of the bottleneck facilities in the terrestrial CMRS marketplace should not prevent the Commission from taking prompt action to impose mandatory interconnection on all terrestrial CMRS providers who are capable of maintaining such interconnection.

Nevertheless, TRW believes the Commission should defer the imposition of interconnection obligations on MSS related CMRS providers. Because MSS space segment providers are not yet operational and because of the unique attributes of MSS itself -- including its global coverage area and limited gateway access -- it is unclear how the capacity will be used on a local level by CMRS providers and end users.

Considering the uncertainty regarding the way in which MSS systems will be used to provide CMRS services and how the



market will develop for those services, the imposition by the Commission of interconnection requirements for MSS providers is premature. Until expected demand for MSS space segment in the CMRS marketplace has had an opportunity to develop, imposing a mandatory interconnection obligation on MSS CMRS providers could, in fact, inhibit the genesis of a robust market by depriving operators and CMRS providers of desirable design and implementation flexibility. Accordingly, at this time the Commission should limit the imposition of interconnection obligations to terrestrial CMRS providers.

### **Conclusion**


On the basis of the foregoing discussion, the Commission should impose equal access and interconnection obligations on all local, terrestrial CMRS providers but should defer imposition of such requirements on CMRS providers that

utilize MSS space segment capacity until a market for such services develops sufficient to determine adequately the costs and benefits of such requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

TRW Inc.

By:

  
Norman P. Leventhal  
Raul R. Rodriguez  
Stephen D. Baruch  
J. Breck Blalock

Leventhal, Senter & Lerman  
2000 K Street, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 429-8970

September 12, 1994

Its Attorneys